

The following categories are guidelines to use to insure a safe home environment. Go through this checklist and ask yourself whether your home is in compliance with these measures.

## DOORS/LOCKS

Yes	No	
_____	_____	Do all of your exterior doors have good quality deadbolt locks with no less than a 1" throw?
_____	_____	Are all of your latch-strike plates on your exterior doors secured with at least 3" screws?
_____	_____	Do your exterior doors having glass within 3 feet of the lock have double-cylinder deadbolt locks installed on them?
_____	_____	Do all of your exterior doors without glass have a wide-angle door-viewer installed for identifying visitors?
_____	_____	Do all of your exterior doors without glass have a wide-angle door-viewer installed at a child's level if children live in the home?
_____	_____	Are all exterior doors constructed of solid wood?
_____	_____	Is your front entrance lit well enough to enable you to identify visitors at night?
_____	_____	Did you change locks when you first moved into your home?
_____	_____	Do you always lock all your doors when you are home for the night or when you leave your residence?
_____	_____	If you have an overhead garage door equipped with an automatic opener, does it use a "rolling code" to foil "code grabbers?"
_____	_____	If your overhead door is not equipped with an automatic opener, does it have good quality padlocks installed on both sides of the door?
_____	_____	Do you always close your overhead garage door, even when you are at home?
_____	_____	Does your door leading from your garage have a good quality deadbolt installed?
_____	_____	Do you use these deadbolts on a regular basis?
_____	_____	Do all of your sliding glass doors have at least one of the following? Track lock, insertion pin lock, hinged door bar, metal or wooden dowel in track.
_____	_____	Do your auxiliary locks prevent the door from being lifted out of its track?

## WINDOWS

_____	_____	Do you check to make sure all windows are locked before you leave your home?
_____	_____	Do you have good quality locks on all of your exterior windows?
_____	_____	Are all of your exterior windows in plain sight and not hidden by shrubbery or trees that provide easy cover for a burglar to hide while forcing open the window?
_____	_____	Do you make sure nothing is left laying around your home that would provide easy access to second floor windows, such as ladders?
_____	_____	If you have an alarm system installed, do all of you exterior windows have contacts?

## LIGHTING

_____	_____	Do you keep a sufficient number of interior lights burning after hours to discourage burglars?
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- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have exterior floodlights or similar lighting illuminating all sides of your home at night?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have flashlights and fresh batteries available in case of electrical failures?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have battery operated emergency exit lights installed above all exterior doors on the inside of the building?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do motion sensors control your exterior lighting?

### **SMOKE/BURGLAR ALARMS**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a smoke alarm in each of the following areas? Hallways near bedrooms, near the family room and kitchen, top of any stairway, basement, and in the garage.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a carbon monoxide detector in the house near the bedrooms and in the basement near the furnace?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you replace the batteries in each of your smoke alarms on a regular basis?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you test each of your smoke alarms on a regular basis?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a quality burglar alarm system with a reputable company?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has your alarm company been instructed to notify the police before they call a contact person?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you test your alarm system on a regular basis?

### **FIRST-AID**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have first aid kits available for both your family and visitors?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do all occupants know where to locate and how to use these kits?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you and your family members know basic life-saving techniques, such as CPR and the Heimlich Maneuver?

### **FIRE EXTINGUISHERS**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have at least one fire extinguisher in your home?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you and your family members know where the fire extinguisher is kept?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Has everyone in the home learned how to operate the fire extinguisher?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you check the expiration date of the fire extinguishers on a regular basis?

### **TELEPHONES**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have at least one telephone installed on every floor in case of an emergency?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have "Caller ID" installed for obscene calls?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have emergency numbers to police, fire, and gas and electric (other than 911) near every telephone?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a cellular telephone available in case of an emergency such as a power outage or intentional cutting of telephone lines?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Does your telephone answering machine announce, "Sorry we're not home to take your call right now"?

### **EMERGENCY PLANS**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have an evacuation plan established in case of a fire or other emergency?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are all residents aware of this plan?

- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you established the best location to go to within the home in the event of a tornado or serious storm?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a plan established to assist handicapped people in the event of an emergency of any type?

### PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you photographed all possessions including computers, furniture, pictures, jewelry, guns, etc. maintained on the premises?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you recorded the make, model, and serial numbers of these items?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you permanently marked all equipment that does not have a serial number?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you made a duplicate copy of your inventory of possessions and do you maintain a copy off premises in the event of a burglary or fire?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you keep valuables, such as money, checks, jewelry, insurance papers, passports, and wills in a locked fireproof safe?

### LANDSCAPING/EXTERIOR AREAS

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you keep all gates on fences locked with a quality outdoor lock?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you trimmed all bushes and shrubs to provide visibility to all windows and to prevent people from hiding nears doors and windows?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have you cut back all branches from trees that might provide easy access to second floor windows?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you keep all outside home equipment (lawnmowers, bicycles, ladders, etc.) secured in a fenced-in area or locked storage shed or chained to a fixed, immovable object?
- \_\_\_\_\_ If you have a pool, are all exterior doors leading to your pool area equipped with a specific door alarm that alerts when someone has exited without using a bypass/reset?
- \_\_\_\_\_ If your pool area has a secondary fence, are the gates secured with a gate lock or auxiliary padlock?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is your pool area or property line surrounded by at least a six foot high fence?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you keep all gates on fences locked with a quality outdoor lock?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is your address clearly visible from the street in the event emergency people need to find you quickly?

### PERSONAL SAFETY

- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you keep all guns safely stored in a locked box, safe, or vault?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are all guns stored separately from the ammunition?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Are all guns intended for home protection equipped with a trigger guard lock?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Have all members of your household been trained to treat every gun as though it were loaded?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Do you leave house keys hidden outside?